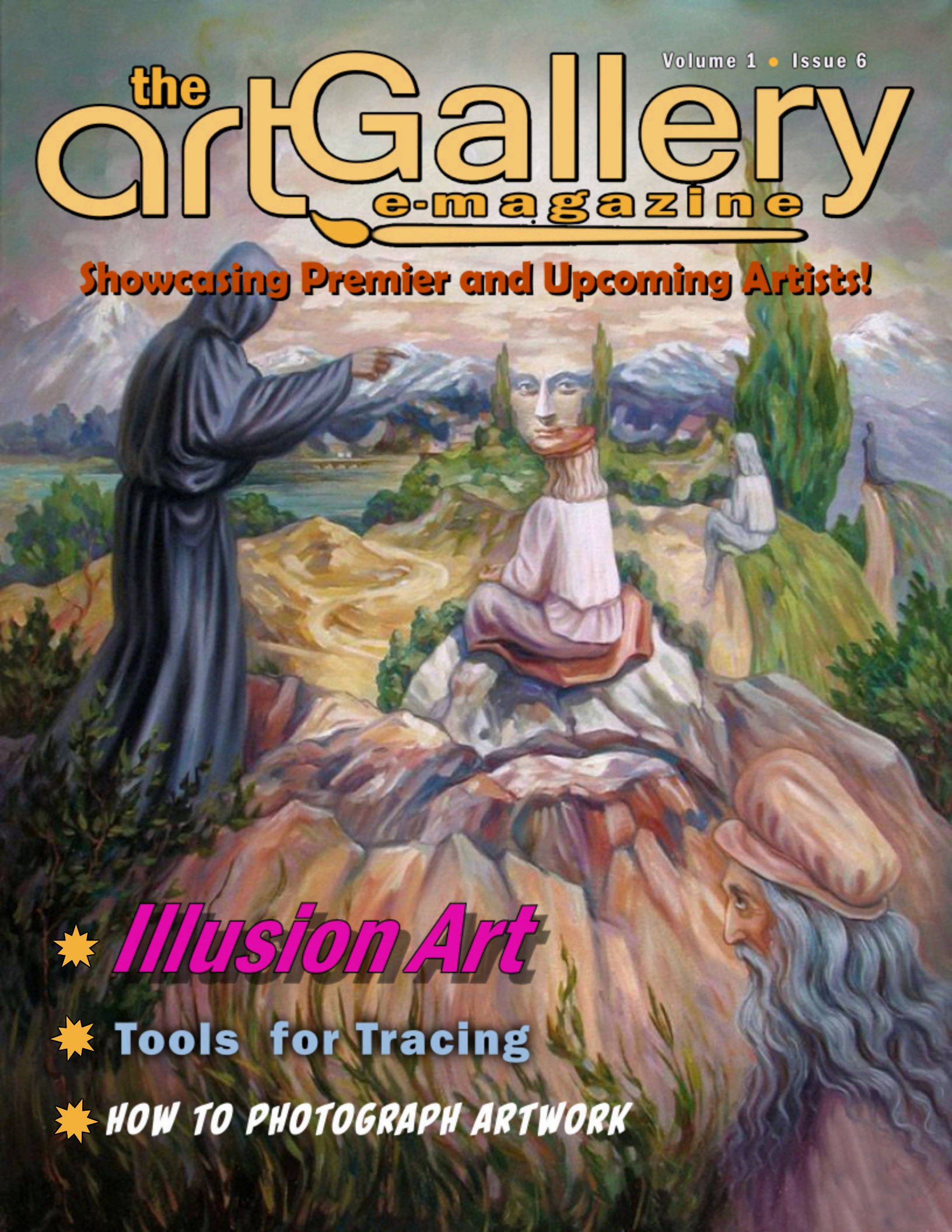
Volume 1 • Issue 6

the artGallery e-magazine

Showcasing Premier and Upcoming Artists!



- Illusion Art
- Tools for Tracing
- HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH ARTWORK

In the Studio...
...with the Editor!

GERALD WALL

This is our sixth-month anniversary issue since we started this in back in May. My brother and I started this not to make money but because we were both retired and coming from an art background, I wanted to help the art community. Art Galleries were hard to get into and rarely even profitable and though there are a few online galleries, the competition is tough. Having spent decades in the publishing business we decided to make a monthly digital magazine in a gallery format. We had several objectives: Make the subscription free to widen the availability and interest; make it accessible to good artists from around the world, limit the amount of artists each month, but maximize their artwork in a two-page spread and have great articles of interests for artists of all levels, genre and styles. We charged no entry fees for the first 5 issues, and in order to help with costs we started charging artists placement fees for less the $10. When we first offered artists in for free we were accused of scamming and when we started asking for a small fee we were accused of scamming.

Nevertheless in the last 6 months we have grown in leaps and bounds. We have a solid subscription base of people that enjoy the magazine, and have had so many great artists who have shown genuine appreciation for helping promote them and their work. In the last six months, we have implemented great features to our e-magazine like making an interactive downloadable PDF for our subscribers, and more recently, a flipbook version for people to view each issue online. We finally finished setting up the website and store for the Art Gallery e-magazine to make information more readily available.

I believe we have created something unique and have not seen anything like it. Though it is a lot of work and is not very profitable yet, we are satisfied that we are helping expose artists to greater inspiration, and art lovers to walk the pages of our digital gallery and enjoy the fruit of artist's labor of love and passion. So a shout out and thank you to all who have contributed and shown their support these last six months and we look forward to moving the coming endeavors.

THE ART GALLERY
E-magazine

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The Art Gallery is a free monthly publication showcasing Artists and providing resources and information for the art community!

Please support The ARTS!

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ABOUT THE ART GALLERY E-MAG

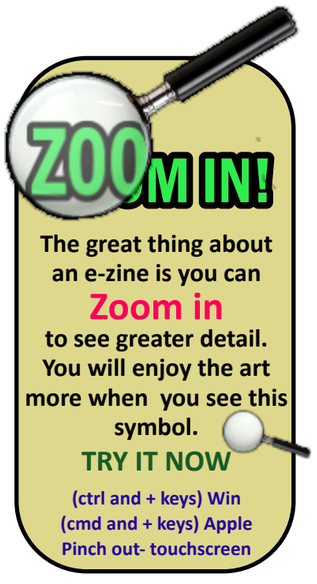
The Art Gallery e-magazine is a monthly free digital publication. Its purpose is to showcase artists from around the world and their work.

We are excited to gather both upcoming as well as seasoned artists from many states and countries to display their art in this publication. Each month we will exhibit new artists and their works in this digital gallery to help promote their art and inspire other artists. We will also offer articles on tips, techniques and trends in the art world. This is a monthly downloadable 32-page-PDF available **free to subscribers.** If you enjoy this publication share it with others.

You can help **support the Arts** by subscribing now by hitting the button!

-TAG-

Subscribe Now!



The Art Gallery e-magazine is an interactive publication.

This PDF is interactive. All URLs, including **artists' websites and social media links** are clickable links. They will open up a browser and take you directly to the website. Likewise, all email links will open up your email program to send an email.

I have also made the **Table of Contents** interactive. By clicking on an artist's **name or image** you can **go directly to the artists page.** Click on the **header** at the top of the page and you will return to the **Contents page.**

Let us Hear from You!

We would love to hear what you think of this publication, its contents, suggestions for articles, artist recommendations and anything you would like to share with us. Please address all comments to *tageditor@mail.com*

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CLICK on the Art Gallery header to return to the Table of Contents.

The Art Gallery e-mag

the artGallery e-magazine

This PDF is interactive. All URLs, including artists' websites, emails and social media links are clickable links. They will open up a browser and take you directly to the website.

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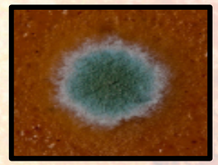

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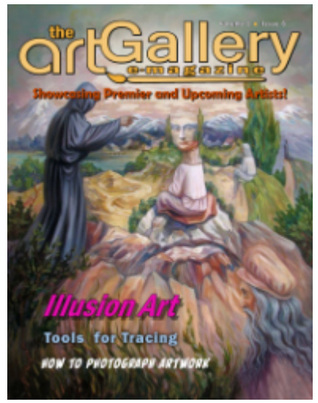
About the Cover

Since our main article this month is about illusion art, we put on the cover one of Oleg Shupliak Paintings honoring one of the great Renaissance artists, Leonardo Da Vinci. Close up we can see elements of Da Vinci's art with the face and background of the Mona Lisa, along with his self portrait painting,



It is actually called *"Vision in the Mountains"* because if one stands back and looks at the image they can see the face of Leonardo in the background; his eyes are in the mountains, his head in the clouds. The figure on the rock is his nose and the crack in the rock is his lips, This is the essence of illusion art; where often a face is hidden in totality of the painting, Check out our articles on illusion art and Oleg Shupliak.

Along with other great articles we have some more great artists from around the world. Remember to zoom in and look at the details and support our great artists. Please leave comments, and any suggestions for articles or artists you would like to see featured - So go get inspired and enjoy!

Gerald Wall

Andrea Ehrhardt's **MURAL MONEY**

An Artist's Guide to Creating Your Dream Career

Learn how to establish your brand, attract customers, confidently promote on social media, and be your own boss.

Have you ever wondered why there are so many talented artists out there, but few seem to make a living with their creativity? Andrea Ehrhardt is a six-figure artist and business coach who shares her knowledge to help those who are ready to go from being a hobbyist to becoming their own full-time creative boss. Andrea teaches real-life strategies on how to grow your art business through a variety of modern methods to help any artist make money with a paintbrush.

Andrea will help you identify any lingering mental blocks you might have around selling and pricing your artwork. She is an open book regarding her money mindset and big financial goals to help you gain the confidence to claim your worth. Build your unique art brand, connect with your target audience, become the go-to artist in your area, and finally love what you do for a living. This is your guide to breaking into the art world and living a life of creativity and financial freedom!

Buy Andrea's book today at:

www.ArtbyAndreaE.com www.MuralMoney.com

the artGallery e-magazine

The Art Gallery is a free subscription e-magazine. All money comes from small artists fees, donations and ads. If you want to donate you can click on the button below.

PayPal Donate Now

If you are an artist and would like to know how to have your art displayed in our magazine, click below:

Artist Information

If you are interested in advertising here in the Art Gallery e-magazine, we can send you a rate card. You can either send us the ad or we will design it for you for free.

For more information click below:

Advertising Info

Thank You For Your Support!

Artist's Reviews

"It's an honour to have my work showcased alongside so many talented artists.Grab a free copy of the magazine, find a cosy spot, and indulge in the diverse and captivating world of art that fills its pages." ***-Tatiana***

"I just downloaded it and it's an excellent set of artists' work beautifully edited. Cheers for your work!!" ***-Angeles***

"Thank you so much, Gerald-san. I'm glad to see new issue of e-magazine with my works in it!" ***-Kohei Yoshihara***

"I've been featured in the art gallery e-magazine! This is the coolest thing to me…seeing myself and my work on a 2-page spread. Subscribe to this magazine." ***-Willow Barnes***

"It looks fantastic - thank you!" ***-John Stadler***

"Wishing you continued success!" ***-Wynn Yarrow***

"Perfect! You have a wonderful publication. It really looks good you are a fast worker to get this magazine ready like this. I think it's a huge plus for the art community!" ***-Jennifer Goodhue***

"Thank you so much. It looks amazing. I love it!"***-Ian Yallop***

"Thank you so much for bringing cheer in my life. You are making me feel like a celebrity!" ***-Sumita Bose***

"Thank you for the opportunity." ***- Ismelda Garza***

"Looks great, thanks." ***-Robert Corsetti***

"Very beautiful design! Cool! Thank you!" ***-Valeriy Novikov***

"Looks awesome! Great layout! Thanks."***- K.Q.***

"Everything looks really great, thank you very much.I appreciate all the work you have put into this." ***-Mirree Bayless***

"I want to thank you very much for publishing me in the august edition of the artgallery magazine. It looks great. I realy appreciate your work for that!" **-Karina Slik**

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

Each month we try to focus on various artists and different kinds of art media from around the world. Our purpose is to help promote artists and their work in a digital gallery format! With this publication we are dedicated to supporting the art community. Being an artist myself, I understand the hardships and struggles an artist has to endure to not only work to create moving works of art but also marketing and selling that work. Although we do not sell art, we do try to promote artists so they might be seen and perhaps sales or commisions will follow.

WE ARE OFFERING A 2-PAGE SPREAD FOR ARTISTS FOR ONLY $9

I am not sure how much longer we will be offering artist this opportunity, but for now you can showcase your work with a 2-page spread in the next issue of "*The Art Gallery e-magazine*". You can take advantage of this opportunity by filling out a submission form that tells us about yourself and where we can view your work. If you are selected, you will be contacted and information will be sent on how you can upload your files and photos and pay the artist fee!. If you know of any artists that may be interested share this e-magazine with them and refer the link below.

Artist Submission

For more information, you can go to my website and see more about the our digital magazine.

https://www.jerrywallcreations.com/the-art-gallery-e-magazine-1

Surprisingly the biggest drawback to many artist submissions is skepticism! Many think we are scamming them .But I try to explain that we never ask for money or any private non-public information and we have a legitament and tangable product. If your still skeptical click on the link below for more information.

https://www.jerrywallcreations.com/tag-sceptics

The Art of Illusion

By Gerald Wall

If you go to my Pinterest site I have many boards on various art media. But the board with probably the most interesting images is called "*Illusion Art*". I have always been fascinated with illusion art and the way painters draw something that you see close up and yet when you step back you see something else. Surrealistic artist **Salvador Dali** and even early art master often occasionally used this technique and it has more recently become trendy with artists like ***Oleg Shupley, Victor Moleve*** and many others.

Illusion art (sometimes called Hidden art) is unique because it often hides a picture of a face that is often concealed within the beautiful surroundings of nature. At times, the face of a person is so craftily hidden that finding it may prove difficult for some. Illusion art is different then Optical illusion art (often referred to as Opt Art) which uses geometric shapes, lines to create optical effects in order to trick the viewer's perception.

Hidden art however is a form of illusion that conceals other images such as faces and figures that are outlined by objects within the painting. Hidden art is very difficult to define because it crosses over into so many other genres and often is approached differently by many artists.

Giuseppe Arcimboldo, an Italian renaissance painter, may have laid a foundation for it when he painted ordinary objects such as fruits, flowers, vegetables, fish, and books to resemble people. Many of his contemporaries thought that he was either mad or given to the bizarre but his work became a inspirations to later artists.

Other artist would reveal faces and figures in between the branches of trees. **Josean Figueroa** a self-taught oil painter from Puerto Rico did experimentation with hidden art using trees and landscape elements to conceal a hidden face in to whole painting. Over all, faces and skulls seem to be the prevailing theme with hidden illusion artists. Often Famous people are portrayed in these hidden paintings such as Jesus, Einstein, Columbus and Leonardo da Vinci.

One of the most prolific illusion artists today is **Oleg Shuplyak**, a Ukrainian artist known for his optical illusions that feature hidden images within his paintings. He studied architecture but began creating oil paintings in his free time and inferred famous faces hidden inside them (See Cover – Leonardo da Vince). His unique approach branded him as one of the most accomplished and famous hidden illusion painters of our time. He has set the bar for many artists to emulate.

Hidden illusion art evokes a different level of creativity requiring not only masterly painting skills but a spatial imagination to render realism with symbolism. It stops the viewer in their tracks and provokes long looks and quiet contemplation. It is a painting that must both be seen at a distance and close up and amazes many with what they see and what they imagine. It is not surprising that many artist and art lovers are discovering this fascinating painting style for the beauty and uniqueness of both the art and the illusion!

Artist Focus

The Illusionary World of Oleg Shuplyak!

"Hidden Images" Art

Oleg Shupliak (sometimes spelt - Shuplyak) was born 23 September 1967 in Ternopil, he is a Ukrainian artist living in Berezhany. Though trained as an architect, his passion for painting has caused him to create fantastic optical illusions concealed within the beautiful surroundings of nature. There he hides a picture of a face in his art style he calls 'Hidden Images'.

Faces of the Famous

Oleg, uses his technical skills as a trained architect to paint surreal optical illusions that contain portraits of other artists, authors and historical figures. His Hidden Figures series includes work as early as 1992 through as recently as 2015. What at first appear to be classical paintings of figures in landscapes, they conceal a second image of a larger human face, easier to see when viewed from afar.

Mind-blowing homages.

His optical illusions are mind-blowing homages to famous artists and he recreates them in the style of those artist. He has painted hidden images and figures in the style and characcature of men like Van Gogh, Dali, Da Vinci, Cezanne and Renoir – to name a few. He gave us mesmerizing optical illusions that play with our minds.

Two oil paintings in one.

He as in effect givien us two paintings in one. The close up shows detail and the furtherback reveals a hidden portrait. In some of his oil paintings, the second image is clearly visible. It is so visible that the first image gets lost. In the second image if one can not see it they may have to squint their eyes and move back before they can actually see it.

Ispiration for many.

Oleg Shuplyak has not only created a unique style of art but his work has inspired countless other artist to mimic and experiment into the realm of "Hidden art" Amost oil painters paint beautful landscapes and portraits but Shuplyak takes us beyound that into the realm of imagination and experimentation. Now art can reveal more that what lays at the surface and draw us into the illusion! ■

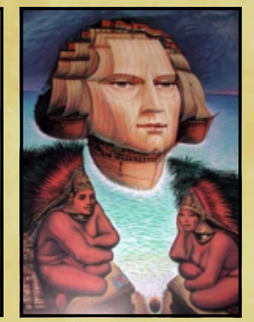
"Leonardo da Vincil"

"Jesus"

Illusionary Paintings by Oleg Shuplyak

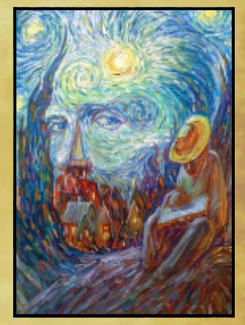
"Hidden Scull"

"Hidden Face"



"Columbus"

"Salvador Dali"



"Vincent Van Gogh"

"Bohdan Lepky"

"Uncle Sam"

"Alexander Vasilyevich Suvorov"

"Salvador Dali"

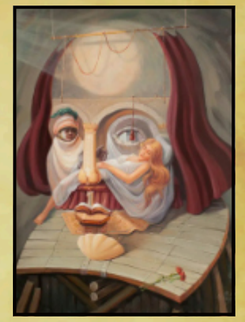
"Taras Shevchenko"

"Ivan the Terrible"

"Darwin"

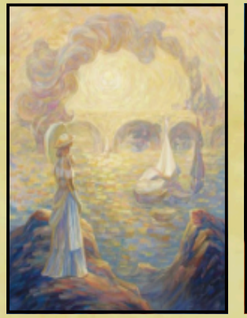
"John Lennon"

"Sir Isaac Newton"



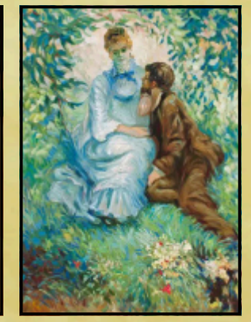
"Shakespeare"

"Paul Cezanne"



"Claude Monet"

"Paul Gauguin"



"Auguste Renoir"

"Vincent Van Gogh"

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Mirree Bayliss

Acrylic on Canvas

Contact information

WEBSITES

https://www.artbymirree.com.au

https://www.artworksbymirree.com/

LINKEDIN

https://www.linkedin.com/in/dreamsofcreationaustralia/

TWITTER

https://twitter.com/artbymirree

FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/artbymirree/

INSTAGRAM

https://www.instagram.com/art_by_mirree/

YOUTUBE

https://www.youtube.com/@artbymirree

PINTEREST

https://www.pinterest.com.au/artbymirree/

Mirree is a highly successful and acclaimed Contemporary Aboriginal Artist. She works full-time as a professional Contemporary Aboriginal painter, residing in Wiradjuri country, in New South Wales, Australia.

Mirree in the Studio

Mirree has developed her style over many years to produce a unique and individual style, consisting of layers of paint & color, line and dot work. Mirree begun painting in 1996, she started to promote her work overseas in 2013.

Mirree travels overseas to promote her Artworks to the world in places such as Sydney, Canberra, New York, Miami & India. Her goal is to reach other places such as China, Japan, Dubai, Europe and Canada.

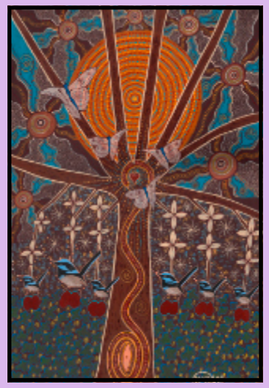
Mirree has achieved great success over the years including Innovation & Excellence Awards 2023 for Contemporary Artist of the Year and Best Contemporary Artist of the Year Award in 2022. She has been featured in a range of publications that celebrate her achievements in creating uniquely individual and eye-popping Aboriginal paintings.

Besides her originals, Miree has converted her beautiful art into a variety of items such as prints and products and even colouring books for adults and kids alike.

Miree Bayliss was also featured in September's issue of The Art Gallery e-magazine.

Contemporary Artist - Mirree Bayliss

Mirree in the studio with Superb Fairy Wren Dreamtime Original Painting


"Superb Wren" - Acrylic

"Day Owl" - Acrylic

"Koala & Baby" - Acrylic

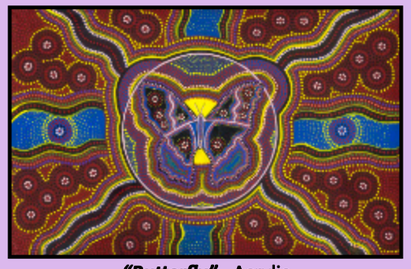
"Crocodile" - Acrylic

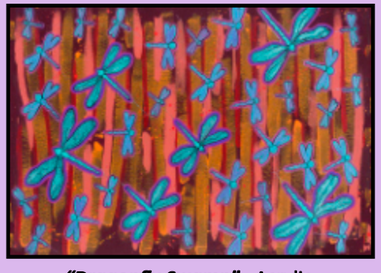
"White Cockatoo" - Acrylic

"Camels" - Acrylic

"Horse" - Acrylic

"Rainbow Serpent" - Acrylic


"Butterfly" - Acrylic


"Dragonfly Swamp" - Acrylic

"Tas Tigar" - Acrylic

"Family Songlines" - Acrylic

Artist Showcase

Moorestown, NJ

Anne Gandolfo

Born in Finland – the land of 180,000 lakes, old forests and harsh winters followed always by the most delicate springs – Anne grew up with a solemn love of nature and a tenderness for color. Like many of us drawn similarly to the love of artistic expression, the demands of life pull us away from pursuing art in earnest. Anne's life was much the same, but she was able to use those years to learn and develop a capacity for painting, making herself quite ready for the time when life opened up a space to become fully invested as an artist.

Her earliest works were mostly in watercolor but soon expanded to oils and pastels and over her 20 yr. career as an artist, has exhibited works in all of those media. Some of her accomplishments over those years include her own show in Rotterdam, acceptance of her work in local shows, numerous commissions both for individuals and commercial works including for magazine and book covers, work that she has done in private teaching in Europe and her own business where she has sold many original works and prints.

For much of her career, Anne's work has been representational exploring a full range of subject matter from portraiture, landscapes, florals, still life and figure and, as a colorist, always worked to employ color in a special way to convey her perspective on the world. During her years living in Europe she found herself spending a lot of time appreciating Van Gogh's juicy and colorful abstractions and became determined to find her way forward into a more indefinite and abstract representation in her work. For this she returned to watercolor but also introduced a mixed-media approach with ink and has been exploring this through botanical subject matter in works on paper.

"Cherry Baby" - Soft Pastel

the artGallery e-magazine

Anne Gandolfo

Watercolor
Pastel, oil

Contact information

Website & On-line Store
https://Anne-Gandolfo.pixels.com/

Social Media Link:
https://www.facebook.com/ArtandAnne

E-mail:
Annemg777@gmail.com

"I am, for the most part, self-taught, but from time to time I get tutelage as well as inspiration from other artists who I feel have achieved something special in their experience through the use of color." -A.G.

"A View Through Sugar Maples" - Oil Painting

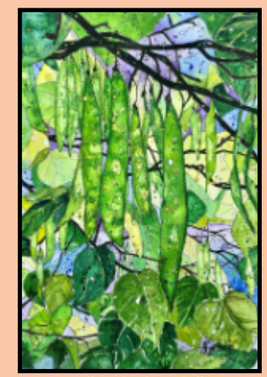
"Red Apples" - Watercolor & Ink

"Rose Garden" - Watercolor & Ink

"Roses on a Vine" - Watercolor & Ink

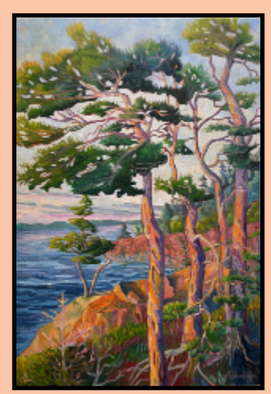
"Sunshine in a Jar" - Watercolor & Ink

"Carnival of Color" - Watercolor & Ink



"Redud Pods" - Watercolor & Ink

"Joy of Summer" - Watercolor & Ink



"Pines by the Gulf of Finland" - Oil

"Happy Moment" - Watercolor & Ink

"Tulip Dreams" - Watercolor & Ink

"Summer in a Jar" - Watercolor & Ink

the artGallery e-magazine

Aurelia Chaintreuil

Graphite, Colored Pencils, Pastels

Contact information

Website

https://www.aurelia-art.com

Online stores

https://society6.com/aureliaart

https://www.inprnt.com/gallery/aureliaart/

Social Media

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/artbyaurelia/

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/artbyaurelia/

Email (Contact Form)

https://www.aurelia-art.com/en/contact-us

Artist Showcase

France

Aurelia Chaintreuil

My name is Aurelia Chaintreuil and I'm a French artist from a little village in the Beaujolais (Rhône). From as far as I can remember, I've always loved drawing and being self taught, I used to make a lof of fan art portraits to improve my skills, finding tips here and there on art forums or through video tutorials. I started sharing my art online in 2003 and soon was offered by a friend to create my own website, a website that's still going on today. Since 2008, I've been selling my art as originals of drawings, personalized drawing commissions (via my website at aurelia-art.com) and prints as well as derivative products via 2 online stores.

Although portraits are my favorite subjects, especially black and white or colored pencil monochrome portraits, I also enjoy making drawings inspired by nature (flowers, still life and animal portraits) or everyday life.

Most of my work is done using either graphite or colored pencils on watercolor hot pressed paper. I also work with pastel pencils on Pastelmat Paper. Most artworks are done on 10x14 inches paper.

"Autumn Daydream" - Colored Pencils

"The Deep Blue" - Colored Pencils

"Wood Carving" - Graphite

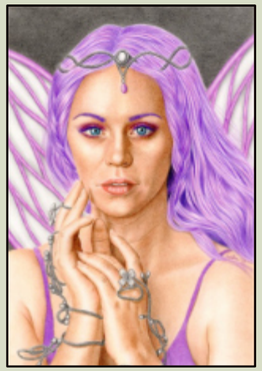
"Baseball" - Graphite

"The red Panda Portrait" - Pastel Pencils

"Sweetheart, let us see if the rose... - Graphite

"The Storyteller - Graphite

"Young Ballerina" - Colored Pencils



"Purple" - Colored Pencils

"On a Winter Afternoon." - Colored Pencils

"Fox Portrait" - Pastel Pencils

"Child Portrait" - Graphite

"The Waiting" - Graphite

"Summer Reading" - Graphite

"Woman Portrait" - Graphite

How to Start your Own Art Collection!

by Antoine Khanji

How to start your art collection

Have you always loved visiting art galleries but wondered how you would go about starting your own collection? If the thought of your own private contemporary art gallery always sounded out of reach, we have good news: the dream is far more achievable than you think, and you don't need to be a millionaire to accomplish it.

From works by major artists, to exciting new contemporary talents, here's how to start your very own art collection, today…

Look for limited edition prints

Rather than expensive original artworks, prints can be an easy and affordable option to grow your collection with works by artists you already admire. Plus, in exclusive print runs, they are also still collectible. Some of the world's most sought after artists often offer prints in limited runs, so keep tabs on updates from your favorites to snap them up when they become available - signing up to your favorite artists and galleries' free newsletters or gallery memberships are a great way to stay in the know. Aperture, for example, is a non-for-profit foundation which collaborates with major artists on small batches of prints, and even the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto offers limited edition art prints for sale.

Trust your taste

Trust your gut instinct when it comes to curating your art collection. Don't just purchase things you think might be valuable, but choose art that you personally enjoy (though of course, you can take a different approach to invest in art, if you're primarily looking for profit rather than pleasure). This way, not only will the process of curating your art collection be incredibly fun, but the result will be a collection that is distinctly and uniquely you. No one else would curate the exact same gallery you would, and that's what makes your own collection so special.

Look for emerging artists

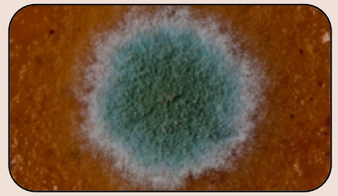
We know that buying your own art pieces can be pricey. But if you don't limit yourself to famous artists, you can acquire some unique, show stopping original artwork without breaking the bank. Look for new and emerging artists whose early work is affordable in order to have the chance to own an original piece, and one which not everyone will know already - and who knows? You may end up investing in an early piece by the next Jeff Wall or Agnes Martin.

Follow artists on social media

Not only does following your favorite artists on social media keep you up to date with their latest collections, exhibitions and any limited edition print collaborations you could add to your own collection, but it also lets you experiment with mixing their art styles before committing to buying them. In fact, having your favorite artists all in one place on your Instagram feed, a Twitter list, or Pinterest board, can be a perfect (and totally free) first step in curating your own art collection - allowing you to see the different artists' work laid out together, and whether its cohesive, in your own digital gallery before buying the pieces. Plus, following artists you love online will help you discover other similar artists you might also want to add to your gallery.

Antoine Khanji is a contributing writer whose artwork has been showcased in The Art Gallery e-magazine!

How to Treat and Prevent Mold from getting on Canvas



If Black spots start appearing on your canvasses whether before or after it is painted it us usually due to mold. It certainly can occur after a flood but also can appear if it is stored in a dark, damp environment or where this is high humidity. Try these options:

- **Clean the back first to avoid damaging the front. Use Lysol Spray or commercial Rubbing alcohol mixed with water.**
- **On the front, carefully use a damp cotton swab of70% alcohol and water. Do not use vinegar as it is acidic and can damage the painting. Dry mold can be brushed loose and vacuumed of the surface.**
- **Glass should be cleaned with a mixture of 10% Bleach and Distilled water.**
- **Dry in the sunlight for a few days or place flat in front of a sunny window.**

PREVENTION

Try not to keep art stored in a damp basement. Keep artwork of the floor.

If you see mold appearing on an art piece and can't clean it immediately, isolate it from the other paintings to prevent spreading.

Your art work is valuable to you so it is important to preserve it so that you and others can enjoy it for years to come.

the artGallery e-magazine

Alan Furst

Watercolor
Color Pencil

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Artist Showcase

Minnesota, USA

Alan Furst

Alan Furst paints from the heart. "It all starts with a story or an experience. Painting becomes the language of my soul to express its interaction with the world around it." While he favors using watercolor he also enjoys color pencil and graphite.

"Winter Bear" - Watercolor

Before he focused on art, Alan was involved in supporting global humanitarian workers in crisis. "I had to find a way to express all these experiences I had. So I picked up a brush and started painting." His art work has evolved since then and he has gone on to focus on skills and new themes. The variety of subject matter reflects in his gallery. He has won a number of international and local awards for his pieces.

"Alan in the Studio!"

Alan and his wife, Carolyn, have three adult sons and 3 grandchildren. His home is located in Ham Lake, Minnesota where he has lived for the past 21 years. ■

Alan Furst

It begins with a story; Expressing the human experience through paint and pencil. – A.F.

Original Watercolor Paintings featuring Portraits, Animals, Landscapes!

"Bodacious" - Watercolor

"November Barn" - Watercolor

"Cat" - ColorPencil

"Trumpet Player" - Watercolor

"Sheep Portrait" - Watercolor

"Jumping Rope" - Watercolor

"Rocket Man" - Watercolor

"Three Fat Pigeons" - Watercolor

"Under the Summer Sky" - ColorPencil

"Caribou" - Watercolor & Pencil

"Easter Morning" - Watercolor

"Bucket Drummer" - Watercolor

Artist Showcase

Russia

Alisha Chuiko

Alisha Chuico is an accomplished tattoo artist and oil painter whose western themes match her desire to embrace the western culture. She beautifully paints the America west with vivid colors and amazing details. Her range of talent is inescapable!

"Greetings to all! My name is Alisha. I am a painter, tattoo artist, musician, vegan and animal lover I am self-taught and paint in oils. I currently live in Russia, but I am planning to move to America."

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Alisha Chuiko

Oil Paintng
Tattoo Artist

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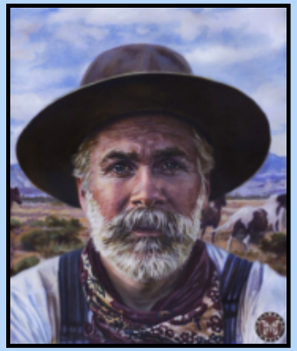

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Artist Showcase

San Francisco, California, USA

E Dale Erickson

Oil Painting

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E Dale Erickson

At a young age I took up painting, much to my father's dismay and over the years have honed and proven my love of creating paintings that masterfully bring together a delicate balance of realism of objects and backgrounds with a character portrait of people; people as they are experienced and not just seen. The juxtaposition of these elements, in my mind, reveals a much deeper story. Most of my paintings come from true stories and feature people from my life. My paintings trend towards the large size which further pushes the boundary of experience. I have dedicated my life to representational painting.

My paintings chronicle my fifty years in San Francisco. My subjects are colorful streets, interesting people, my world travels, as well as a wide variety of still life subjects. In my approach, the dance of color and light exposes a traditional, formal treatment of composition. At the same time formality is expressed quietly and uniquely in the casual elegance that I try to imbue in most of my paintings.

As a longtime resident of Project Artaud, an artist co-op, which has been a driving force in the San Francisco arts community since the early 1970's I have made many friends and have since lost a few as we grow into our 80s and beyond. As a young boy I started painting the world around me and have continued to do so ever since. Following my passion, I pursued a formal education in fine arts and have been selling my works across the world and I currently have a painting in the de Young Museum, San Francisco.

I received my Bachelor of Fine Arts in painting from the Art Institute of Chicago in 1964 and an MA in printmaking from San Francisco State University in 1974.

"Bernard Reads The Sunday Paper To Josh" - Oil

"Lake Bronson Farm" - Oil on Canvas

"Project Artaud As A Book" - Oil

"Bernie" - Oil on Canvas

"Afternoon Palm San Francisco" - Oil

"Bowler and Pepper" - Oil on Canvas

"South Van Ness Market" - Oil on Canvas

"Summer Bed" - Oil on Canvas

"Cliff House San Francisco" - Oil on Canvas

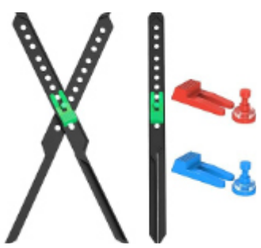
Today's Tracing Tools

GETTING THE PROPORTIONS RIGHT!

Although many artists feel that tracing is cheating, there are some cases where exact proportion is critical. Tracing is the best way to get exact proportion and it does not take away from one's skill as a painter. Have you ever seen a great painting but you notice that things are off? Maybe the head is too big for the body or the hand seems out of whack. Some artists are great with color and painting but lack drawing skills and face it, even drawing what see can be far from exact when it comes to proportion. Below are some devices that might help!

Mechanical Tools for Tracing

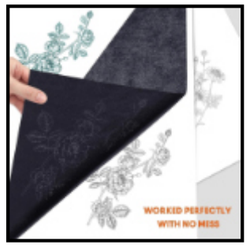
Proportional Dividers.- In the old days, artists would hold up their thumb when looking at what they were painting. They did this for a reason. The would use their thumb or fingers as a measuring device to figure proportion. Sketchers used their pencils and some artist used the back of the Brush, today many people use a mechanical proportional divider to do the same thing. But these dividers go a step further by making ab X shape you can adjust the tool to different proportions like 1:1.25, 1:1.5, 1:1.75, 1:2, 1:3, etc.



Amazon.com: YARKOR 10 Inches Artist Proportional Scale Divider Drawing Tool

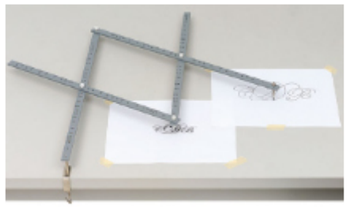
Tracing Paper: Tracing paper is a thin, translucent paper that is placed over the original artwork or reference material. Artists can then use pencils, pens, or other drawing tools to trace the lines and details onto the tracing paper.

Graphite Transfer Paper: Graphite transfer paper is coated with graphite on one side. Artists can place this paper between the original artwork/reference and the drawing surface. When pressure is applied while tracing over the lines, the graphite transfers onto the drawing surface. Do not use carbon paper because it is wax based and difficult to remove. Artist Graphite paper which can easily be cleaned up with a kneaded eraser.



Amazon - artist graphite paper wax free

Pantograph: A pantograph is a very simple mechanical device that allows artists to replicate drawings at a different scale. By tracing the original artwork with one end of the pantograph, the connected pen or pencil reproduces the image at a different size on the drawing surface. This device actually dates back to 60 AD through the Greek engineer Hero of Alexandria and yet is still used today!



Blicks - Alvin 21" Hardwood Pantograph

Optical Tools for Tracing

Light Box - A light box is a flat, illuminated surface with a translucent top that allows artists to place their original artwork or reference material on top. When turned on, the light shines through the paper, making it easy to trace the lines or details onto a new sheet of paper placed on top.

Todays LED boxes are thin, light and bright enough to trace a photo onto canvass.

Amazon - LED Copy Board Light Tracing Box

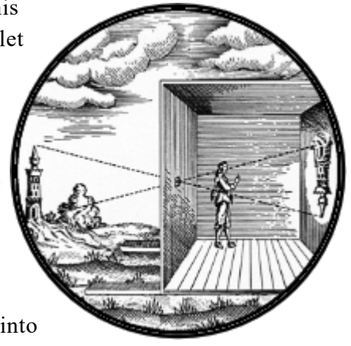
Projector: Artists can use projectors to project an image or reference material onto a canvas or paper. This allows for precise tracing and scaling of the image. There are digital projectors and traditional slide projectors, both of which can be used for this purpose. Specialized art projectors are designed specifically for artists and offer features like adjustable brightness and the ability to zoom in or out to trace and project images accurately. Norman Rockwell who famously did covers for Life magazine use projectors to get the exact proportions of his subjects.

Amazon - Artograph EZ Tracer® Opaque Art Projector For Wall or Canvas Image Reproduction

Camera Lucida: The camera lucida first patented in 1806is an optical device that reflects the image of an object or scene onto a drawing surface using a prism or mirror. By looking through the camera lucida, artists can trace what they see. It is now believed that the old masters used this device to accurately paint their work in true proportion. This device is starting to come back in vogue with the ***NeoLucida***.

NeoLucida: The 21st Century Camera Lucida

Camera Obscura. Though not practical today it is important to mention this device which probably let to the invention of photography, Basically, Whereas The term "camera lucida" (Latin) means "light room", the camera obscura means "dark room". A pinhole would let light into a box or room and project and upside-down image on a wall. This could then be traced. Many great Dutch Master used this device to make their paintings,



Computer Software: Artists can use graphic design software like Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop to trace digital images or manipulate existing artwork. These software programs offer various tracing tools and features.

Digital Drawing Tablets: Artists can use digital drawing tablets connected to a computer or a tablet device to trace and create digital artwork. These tablets often come with stylus pens that offer precise control and pressure sensitivity. The iPad and the Surface utilize drawing programs that use layers, A layer with a photograph can be traced onto another layer, then discarded or hidden and an proportionate digital painting can then be done.

Wacom Cintiq 16 Drawing Tablet

Optical Drawing Boards: This is the newest method of using a phone or tablet to reflect or project an image on to a sheet to trace. These use software to reverse the image to be traced.

This is just a few of many choices of products out there. The choice of tracing device or tool depends on the artist's specific requirements, medium, and personal preferences. Some artists may prefer traditional methods, while others may opt for digital solutions. Many however are great a solution to getting proportions right in your paintings.

Artist Showcase

Indonesia

Rudy Adnan

My name is Rudy Adnan. I was born and grew up in Singkawang city, West Kalimantan, Indonesia. In 1969, at the age of 18, I went to the big city of Surabaya to continue my education at the Technical University majoring in Marine Engineering. My first experience as an artist was when in 1990 I painted a portrait of Abraham Lincoln using Charcoal. My influences were many great artists on YouTube such as Andrew Tischler, Samuel Earp, Freeman White, and Ian Roberts. This is when I realized that I wanted to pursue my career in this field. I believe that being an artist is something that one is born to do and not learned at school. I went on to study through practical experience, learning through trial and error and self learning, studying the works of great artists on YouTube as my teachers. lt was here that I furthered expanded my knowledge in landscape, seascape and animals paintings. I work primarily in acrylics and oils and I currently work from my home in Surabaya, Indonesia. I have sold some of my artworks to a gallery in Wisconsin US in 2020.

the artGallery e-magazine

Rudy Adnan

Acrylic Painting

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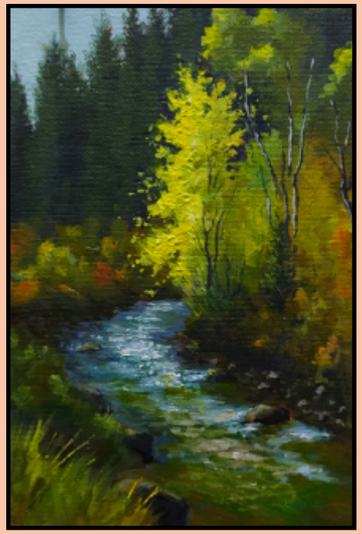

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Shahin Mojtabai

Oil on Canvas

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Artist Showcase

California , USA

Shahin Mojtabai

If it were not for the offer of a bite of an apple by a homeless French painter on banks of Paris" Seine River, Topanga Canyon might not have its newest art studio."I stopped and watched a couple of painters at work. One of the painters, I remember, had a long and almost scary face. " Mojtabai said. *"Then, with a half-eaten apple in his hand he reached over and without saying a word, I felt him call for me to grab it. It was like voila, the seed of my love for critical realism was planted."*

Now Mojtabai would like to do the same for his students, although perhaps he won"t be using an apple. Named for the Russian realist painter Ivan Shishkin, Shishkin studio will be a place where anyone can learn to paint the ordinary and observable world in a realistic and objective style, according to Mojtabai. He said talent is not a requirement.

"Talent doesn"t play such a role," he said. *"It"s the skill of life (that"s important). Life is about becoming more sensitive to our environment. Talent means that someone could already be more sensitive."*

Mojtabai, 43, has 14 years experience under his belt as a painter and teacher, and is accepting new students of almost all ages, although anyone interested should be at least 10 years old.

"He is very expressive and he"s very artistic . . . He teaches everything he knows and he keeps repeating so you get it. He explains perfectly and he can nicely make his point. And of course, he"s a great painter. He"s very honest and sometimes you might not like his honesty," she said with a laugh.

"I love teaching almost more than I love painting," Mojtabai said. For him, it"s all about seeing the light go on in students" eyes when they get it. *"What if you make that difference for a person that one time" It makes me feel like my existence matters."* ■

"Caspian" -Oil on Canvas

"Merlin" -Oil on Canvas

"Javaherdeh" -Oil on Canvas

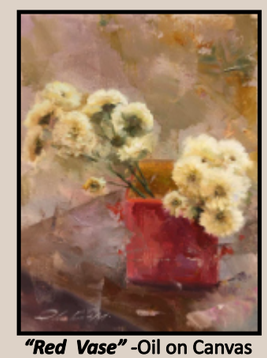
"Kelardasht" -Oil on Canvas

"Khar" -Oil on Canvas

"Fllowers" -Oil on Canvas

"Pink Vase" -Oil on Canvas

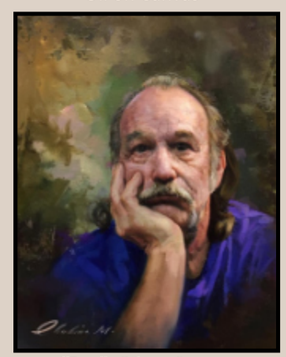
"Orange Vase-Pink Flower" -Oil on Canvas



"Red Vase" -Oil on Canvas

"Silver Orange" -Oil on Canvas

"Black Guy" -Oil on Canvas



"Pat" -Oil on Canvas

"Tohid" -Oil on Canvas

"Abianeh" -Oil on Canvas

Artist Showcase

Lithuania

Tatjana Cechun

I was born in the capital of a small Baltic country in a family of artists 51 years ago. I've been drawing since I was a child, as long as I can remember. I was friends with a neighbor boy whose parents were also artists. That's why he and I grew up in a creative environment. Perhaps such an environment (poets, artists, musicians, artists) influenced my development.

I drew always and everywhere, and often automatically (unconsciously) .

At the age of 17, after graduating from high school, I, as is typical of young people, was a terrible maximalist. It seemed to me that I already knew everything and knew how to do everything. My parents wanted me to continue my studies at the Art Academy. But I wasn't interested in painting (I draw all the time anyway), I wanted to travel and be a journalist. Grandiose ideas were spinning in my childish head about how I would travel around the world, interview almost lions and tigers…

I graduated from the university with a degree in philology and journalism, and then it turned out that the editorial offices do not send anyone on any trips to interesting places. Instead they wanted me to start a daily column "Lithuanian Sport". It was the collapse of my childhood hopes. I quit journalism and returned to painting.

My best friend (the boy next door) also had childishly ambitious - he wanted to become an architect and no less than Corbusier. But after receiving his diploma, he realized that there was little creativity and a lot of mathematics in his profession. Disappointed and also returned to painting.

We got married in 1992 and have been working together in the same workshop for 30 years. We have a daughter (27 years old), who is more talented than both of us, but she is not interested in painting. She became a successful surgeon.

A few years ago, I planned an individual exhibition in which I wanted to present a series of works united by one idea, one format and one price. Due to the pandemic, the exhibition was canceled. But I haven't given up on the idea of creating this series, so I'm working on it. I wanted to try to combine the painting direction of the "little Dutch" with modern realism. Combine "eternity and a moment" on one canvas: antique and expensive utensils, next to fresh flowers and fruits. I'm trying to show that in this world, in a certain period of time, there can be something that will stay with us forever and something that will disappear without a trace.

the artGallery e-magazine

Tatjana Cechun
Oil Painting

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"Music for Everyone" - Oil on Canvas

"Lilies and Dragonflies" - Oil on Canvas

"Peoniese" - Oil on Canvas

"Lilac" - Oil on Canvas

"Pink Lilac" - Oil on Canvas

"Forge- me-nots" - Oil on Canvas

"Daffodils and Nuts" - Oil on Canvas

"Irises in a Jug" - Oil on Canvas

"Daisies" - Oil on Canvas

"Sunflowers and Pears" - Oil on Canvas

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH ARTWORK

Photographing artwork, whether it's paintings, drawings, sculptures, or any other form of art, requires careful attention to detail to capture the work accurately. You don't need to be a professional photographer, but whether its for placing your art photos on websites, social media, or for promo work, you want your photos to represent your art in the best way possible especially if its going to be used for prints of your art. Here's a step-by-step guide on how to photograph your artwork:

1. GATHER YOUR EQUIPMENT:

•**Camera**: Use a DSLR or mirrorless camera for better control over settings and image quality. However, a high-quality smartphone with a good camera can also work.

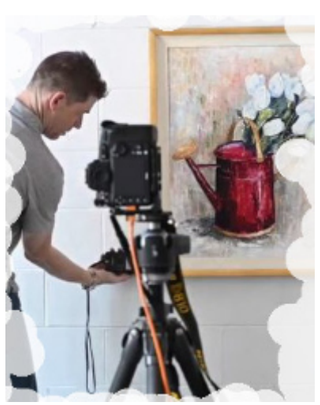
Tripod: A sturdy tripod is essential to keep your camera stable and prevent blur.

Lighting: Use diffused, natural light or studio lighting for even illumination. Avoid direct sunlight or harsh shadows.

2. PREPARE THE ARTWORK:

Position the artwork on a stable surface or easel at a comfortable working height. If the light is good you can hang it low on a wall at the hight of your tripod. Ensure the artwork is clean and free from dust or smudges. If the artwork is behind glass, remove or reduce glare by adjusting the lighting and angle of your camera.

3. SET UP THE CAMERA:



Use a low ISO setting (typically ISO 100 or 200) to minimize noise. Choose the appropriate aperture (f-stop) for your desired depth of field. A smaller aperture (higher f-number) like f/8 or f/11 is often used to ensure the entire artwork is in focus. Set a custom white balance to match the lighting conditions. Use the camera's manual mode for full control over exposure settings.

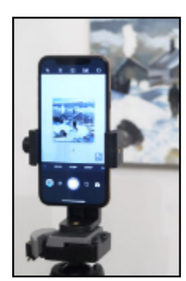
4. FRAMING AND COMPOSITION:

Ensure the artwork is centered and framed correctly in the viewfinder or on the camera's LCD screen.
Use a level to ensure the camera is perfectly horizontal to avoid distortion. Use the rule of thirds or other compositional guidelines for a visually appealing image.

5. LIGHTING:

If using natural light, position the artwork near a large window but avoid direct sunlight. Overcast days provide soft, diffused light ideal for artwork.
If using artificial lighting, use softboxes or diffusers to create even, shadow-free illumination.
Consider using multiple light sources to reduce shadows and provide uniform lighting.

6. USING A PHONE CAMERA:



Today's iPhones and other cell phones take excellent photos. Remember to use the tripod or set it on a mount. Set the flash to automatic in on the artwork in case there is not enough natural light. Zoom in to just cover the painting. You can crop it later. Sometimes just the clicking can jostle the camera a bit so if you have a timer, set it for 3 seconds and let it do its thing.

7. TAKE MULTIPLE SHOTS:

Capture multiple shots with different exposures and angles to have options during post-processing.

8. POST-PROCESSING:

Transfer the photos to your computer and use photo editing software like Adobe Photoshop or Lightroom to adjust exposure, color balance, and sharpness.
Crop the image if needed to remove any unwanted elements or to focus on the artwork.

9. SAVE AND SHARE:

Save your edited images in a high-resolution format (e.g., TIFF or PNG) for archival purposes and a lowe resolution format (e.g., JPEG) for sharing online or printing.Remember that photographing artwork can be a skill that takes time to develop.

Don't hesitate to experiment and make adjustments to achieve the best results, and consider seeking professional help if needed, especially for valuable or large-scale artworks.

"If I could say it in words there would be no reason to paint."

Edward Hopper